

Message Text

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42

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-14 DPW-01 CIAE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 DRC-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 AID-20 /167 W
----- 002175

O R 151119Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6637

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL UDORN

USLO PEKING

USMISSION USUN

SECDEF

DIA

USIA WASHDC

CINCPAC

CINCUSARPAC

CINCPACAF

CDR USSAG NKP

CDR 13 AF ADVON UDORN

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USDAO SAIGON

COMUSMACTHAI
DODSPECREP BANGKOK
DODSPECREP NKP
354 TFW KORAT
CHSPECACTS BANGKOK
CDR JCRC NKP
7 ACCS KORAT
432 TFW UDORN
8 TFW KORAT
56 SOW NKP
388 TFW KORAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 VIENTIANE 7783

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, PGOV, PFOR, PINS, PINT, ECON, LA
SUBJECT: LAO WEEKLY SITREP - NOVEMBER 15

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD; 13 AF ADVON, 432 TFW, 56 SOW,
388 TFW, 354 TFW AND 8 TFW FOR DO/DI; MACTHAI FOR J-2
AND PAO.

REF: VIENTIANE 7624

BEGIN SUMMARY: ARRIVALS OF LPF CADRE AND CARGO DWINDLED
TO A TRICKEL DURING THE WEEK, AS THE LAO CELEBRATED THAT
LUANG FESTIVAL. SOUVANNA WROTE SOUPHANOUVONG, CALLING ON HIM
TO COME TO LUANG PRABANG TO NEGOTIATE DIRECTLY WITH HIM.
SOTH PHETRASY, MEANWHILE, SAID LPF LIST OF MINISTERS WAS READY
BUT ITS PUBLICATION AWAITS ESTABLISHMENT OF WHAT LPF CONSIDERS
SUFFICIENT SECURITY IN VIENTIANE. HE CALLED FOR FULL EQUALITY
BETWEEN THE RLG AND LPF IN NEUTRALIZATION OF VIENTIANE.
FROM NOVEMBER 2-6, NORTH VIENTIANE COMMUNIST PARTY CHIEF,
LE DUAN, VISITED SAM NEUA FOR THE FIRST TIME MADE PUBLIC.
MILITARY SITUATION DURING THE PERIOD REMAINED QUIET, BUT
WORLDWIDE FUEL CRISIS HAS DISTURBED LAO ECONOMY. END SUMMARY

I. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT

A. AIRLIFT OF LPF PERSONNEL AND CARGO DWINDLES
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DURING THAT LUANG FESTIVAL:

SOVIET AN-12 FLIGHTS TO VIENTIANE WERE SUSPENDED
TEMPORARILY NOVEMBER 8-11, TO PERMIT THE ANNUAL THAI
LUANG FAIR FESTIVITIES TO OCCUR IN A RELAXED ATMOSPHERE,
WHICH WAS THE CASE. HOWEVER, PRC IL-14 FLIGHTS CONTINUED
TO LUANG PRABANG, NTRINGING 104 MEN IN UNIFORM AND ONE
CIVILIAN ON NOVEMBER 8 AND 70 MEN IN UNIFORM ON NOVEMBER

14. THERE WERE ALSO PRC CARGO FLIGHTS TO LUANG PRABANG ON NOVEMBER 9 AND 10, BUT NO FLIGHTS AT ALL NOVEMBER 11-13. SOVIET FLIGHTS RECOMMENCED NOVEMBER 13, AND, BY THE 14TH, A TOTAL OF 246 ADDITIONAL LPF PERSONNEL--MOSTLY ARMED TROOPS IN UNIFORM--HAD ARRIVED IN VIENTIANE. CARGO TRANSPORTED TO BOTH VIENTIANE AND LUANG PRABANG DURING THE PERIOD CONSISTED MAINLY OF AMMUNITION, FOOD, FURNITURE, ASSORTED BOXES AND FIFTY-FIVE-GALLON DRUMS.

RLG SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED NOVEMBER 15 THAT LPF PERSONNEL ARRIVALS WOULD END NOVEMBER 16 IN VIENTIANE AND ON THE 20TH IN LUANG PRABANG. PRESENT UNOFFICIAL TOTALS FOR LPF ARRIVALS SINCE OCTOBER 9 ARE AS FOLLOWS: VIENTIANE - 1,213; LUANG PRABANG - 473.

B. ACTIVITIES OF LPF PERSONNEL IN VIENTIANE AND LUANG PRABANG:

PRESENCE OF LPF IN VIENTIANE AND LUANG PRABANG CONTINUES TO BE INCONSPICUOUS. SMALL NUMBERS OF LPF WERE SEEN IN OCCASIONAL ATTENDANCE AT THE THAT LUANG FAIR, AND THE LPF NEGOTIATORS PARTICIPATED IN THE OFFICIAL FESTIVITIES AND EVEN VISITED THE US PAVILLON. CADRE IN BOTH VIENTIANE AND LUANG PRABANG HAVE BEEN BUSY CLEANING UP THEIR FACILITIES AND CULTIVATING THEIR VEGETABLE GARDENS.

II. INTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS

A. ON NOVEMBER 15, THE RLG OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN CONFIRMED THAT PRIME MINISTER SOUVANNA PHOUMA SENT A LETTER TO PRINCE SOUPHANOUVONG IN SAM NEUA ASKING HIM TO COME TO LUANG PRABANG TO NEGOTIATE DIRECTLY WITH HIM, AND, IF THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE, THEN FOR HIM TO SEND HIS PLENIPOTENTIARY, PHOUMI CONFIDENTIAL

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VONGVICHIT, TO VIENTIANE TO SPEED UP THE NEGOTIATIONS. THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE RLG IS STILL AWAITING THE NAMES OF LPF MEMBERS IN THE NEW PGNU AND JNPC. HE ALSO STATED THAT, WHEN THE PGNU IS FORMED, THE GOVERNMENT WILL CALL AN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, BUT HE WAS EVASIVE ON THE QUESTION OF WHETHER SUCH A SESSION WOULD BE TO SEEK THE APPROVAL OF THE ASSEMBLY OR SIMPLY TO INFORM THE ASSEMBLY OF THE NAMES OF THE NEW PGNU MEMBERS. (COMMENT: NOW THAT THAT LUANG CELEBRATIONS ARE OVER, PRIME MINISTER SOUVANNA APPEARS INTENT ON PRODDING RLG-LPF NEGOTIATIONS BACK ON THE TRACK.)

B. SOTH PHETRASY, IN A VIENTIANE POST INTERVIEW ON NOVEMBER 13, STATED THAT THE LPF HAD NOT PRESENTED ITS LIST OF FUTURE MINISTERS BECAUSE THE TWO PARTIES HAD NOT YET

MET SECURITY CONDITIONS NECESSARY BEFORE THE FORMATION OF
THE PGNU, BUT WHEN SUCH CONDITIONS ARE MET THERE WILL BE NO
PROBLEM IN ANNOUNCING THE NAMES SINCE THE LPF LIST IS ALREADY
DRAWN UP. HE ADDED THAT THE LPF IS NOT INSISTING ON
THE INTRODUCTION OF ALL THE LPF MILITARY AND POLICE FORCES

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-14 DPW-01 CIAE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

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USIE-00 INRE-00 AID-20 /167 W
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FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6641

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 VIENTIANE 7783

CALLED FOR IN THE ACCORD, BUT ONLY A CERTAIN PORTION THEREOF WHICH IS JUDGED BY THE LPF TO BE SUFFICIENT TO ASSURE THE SECURITY OF THE LPF MINISTERS. SOTH SAID THAT THE LPF WOULD LIKE TO KNOW THE EFFECTIVE NUMBER OF TROOPS ON THE RLG SIDE, SINCE BOTH SIDES SHOULD BE EQUAL AND HAVE THE SAME RIGHTS. HE POINTED OUT THAT THIS TIME LAO REUNIFICATION MEANS MORE THAN THE INTEGRATION OF THE LPF INTO THE GOVERNMENT, BUT THAT THE TWO SIDES MUST INTEGRATE INTO EACH OTHER, TO FORM A UNIFIED WHOLE.

C. ON NOVEMBER 15, NGON SANANIKONE REPLIED AT LENGTH TO CHARGES MADE IN A RADIO PATHET LAO SPEECH BY PRINCE SOUPHANOUVONG NOVEMBER 6 TO THE EFFECT THAT THE SANANIKONES ARE LACKEYS OF THE AMERICANS AND THAT THEY ARE OPPOSED TO PEACE AND NATIONAL RECONCILIATION. NGON RETORTED THAT DELAYS IN THE FORMATION OF THE PGNU WERE THE FAULT OF THE LPF AND NOTED THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SANANIKONE FAMILY HAVE BEEN ACTIVE AT EACH OF THE LAO PEACE CONFERENCES. REASON THAT SOUPHANOUVONG'S BLAST AT THE SANANIKONES DREW BLOOD THIS TIME IS UNKNOWN SINCE THEY HAVE BEEN PRIME TARGET FOR LPF PROPAGANDA FOR YEARS.

D. ON NOVEMBER 12, SOUPHANOUVONG SENT WARM BIRTH-DAY GREETING TO THE KING IN WHICH HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT KING WILL BE OF "GREAT HELP IN SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTING ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THE VIENTIANE AGREEMENT AND THE PROTOCOL IN ORDER TO INSURE LASTING PEACE AND NATIONAL
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CONCORD."

E. LE DUAN, ACCOMPANIED BY A DELEGATION OF NORTH VIETNAMESE COMMUNIST PARTY OFFICIALS, VISITED SAM NEUA NOVEMBER 2-6 FOR THE FIRST TIME. AS COULD BE EXPECTED, THE VISIT WAS A COMRADELY LOVEFEST, ALTHOUGH THE MOTIVE FOR THE VISIT AND ITS TIMING REMAIN OBSCURE.

III. SECURITY SITUATION

EIGHT INCIDENTS WERE REPORTED DURING THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 15. FOUR OF THESE INCIDENTS TOOK PLACE IN MR-IV. ONLY KNOWN CASUALTIES WERE ONE FRIENDLY MIA IN MR-III AND THREE PL KILLED IN AN INCIDENT IN MR-V. THIS IS THE TWELFTH CONSECUTIVE WEEK IN WHICH THERE HAVE BEEN FEWER THAN TEN CEASEFIRE INCIDENTS.

IV. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

(THIS CONSTITUTES A NEW SECTION OF THE WEEKLY SITREP.)

A. THE EFFECTS OF THE WORLDWIDE POL CRISIS HAVE REACHED LAOS. RLG SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED NOVEMBER 15 THAT PRICE OF SUPER AND REGULAR GAS WOULD INCREASE APPROXIMATELY BY 20 AND 40 PERCENT, RESPECTIVELY. IN ADDITION, RATIONING OF GAS HAS BEEN DECLARED FOR PERSONAL VEHICLES AND ALLOTMENTS OF GAS TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ARE TO BE REDUCED BY 50 PERCENT. RLG ANNOUNCEMENT COMES ON HEELS OF PRIME MINISTER'S ORDER TO ALL RLG COMPONENTS, WHICH REDUCED THEIR POL ALLOCATIONS AND CALLED FOR HEIGHTENED VIGILANCE IN THE USE OF FUEL.

B. NEGOTIATIONS ON THE CY 1974 STABILIZATION PROGRAM (FEOF) COMMENCED NOVEMBER 13, DURING A MEETING CHAIRED BY THE MINISTER OF FINANCE WITH DONOR COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIR TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNIST FRONT ORGANIZATIONS, PERSONNEL TRAVEL
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 15 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731130/aaaaavzg.tel
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Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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30 JUN 2005

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Subject: LAO WEEKLY SITREP - NOVEMBER 15 CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD; 13 AF ADVON, 432 TFW, 56 SOW
TAGS: MOPS, PGOV, PFOR, PINS, PINT, ECON, LA, LPF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005